RE. Docket No 98N-1038, "Irradiation in the Production, Processing + Handling

To whom it may concern 7/16/99

I am extremely concerned about the idea of weakening or eliminating the labeling requirements for food that has been irradiated. Any foods containing ingredients that have been treated by irradiation should be clearly labeled, indicating the treatment. The statement should be very easy to read and close to the name of the food, accompanied by the radura, the international symbol of irradiated food. If the food is not packaged, then the information should be displayed on a poster that is in plain view and adjacent to where the product is displayed for sale.

Like other labels required by federal law, irradiation labels should be truthful and not misleading. Phrases such as "cold pasteurization" are inappropriate because pasteurization is an entirely different process involving rapid heating and cooling. The terms "treated with radiation" or "treated by irradiation" should be retained because they accurately portray the irradiation process. The radura symbol, without written disclosure, is not adequate.

Consumers have a right to know how their food has been processed. Please ensure that labeling requirements are strengthened not weakened.

C4232

Sincerely — Cherrie Jacobsen

19834 Tousley Ct SW
Rochester WA 98579

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C. Jacobsen
19834 Jousey Ct SW
Rochester WA 98579

TACOMA WA
1993

33 USA

William Hubbard
Dockets Management Branch (HFA305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville MD 20852
20857/0001

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